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Appeals Court Ruling

DeLorean Prosecutors Upheld

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 30—A federal appeals court ruled today that the government does not have to conduct an exhaustive search of all its files for the name of John Z. DeLorean before the former auto maker can be tried in an alleged \$24 million cocaine trafficking scheme.

A three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said the Freedom of Information Act does not apply to criminal cases like DeLorean's.

This overruled a lower court rul-

ing that said officials of 18 government agencies, including the CIA, must conduct the search. Government prosecutors said such a requirement would bring the case against the 58-year-old millionaire "to a grinding halt."

Defense attorney Howard Weitzman, who has suggested that some U.S. agencies might have conspired with the British government to hurt DeLorean's sports car business, said he may ask the full appeals court to reconsider today's decision.